

REMARKS

Several minor errors in dependency are changed in the claims.

In the REMARKS, the following corrections are made:

At page 11, the third full paragraph, line 1, "how" is amended to --now-- so that this paragraph correctly reads as follows (the changed word being bolded):

Further, to explain more specifically the subject matter of claim 7 (~~how now~~ claim 34) reciting that: "wherein the number of grooves having said voids between said peripheral wall layer and said grooves is 5% or more of the number of the total grooves," Applicants add new dependent claim 35 calling for: "The ceramic honeycomb structure according to amended claim 34, wherein the total length of a contact portion of the grooves with the peripheral wall layer is 95% or less based on the total length of the grooves," which finds support at page 13, line 26 to page 14, line 2; and Fig. 9 of the specification.)

At page 12, second full paragraph, line 1, "claims 35-36" should correctly read "--claims 35-37--", so this paragraph now reads:

With the addition of new claims ~~35-36~~ 35-37 and the change of "claims 8 and 9" to -- claims 38 and 39--, claims 10 to 13 (old) are canceled.

At page 13, third full paragraph, line 1, "according to claims 1 and 34" should read -- according to claims 1 and 33-- so that this paragraph now reads:

With respect to the honeycomb structures according to claims 1 and ~~34~~33, because these honeycomb structures have sufficient mechanical strength to avoid cracking, chipping, etc. by vibration, etc., when used in exhaust gas-cleaning catalytic converters or in particulates-

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capturing filters (see page 1, lines 9-13 in view of page 60, lines 8-15 of the specification),

Applicants add new claims 49 and 50 each directed to a particulates-capturing filter.

With the amendments to claim 51, the fourth full paragraph on page 13 should have the claim numbering changed to read as follows:

With the claim amendments above, claim 19 is changed to claim 51, changing not only the dependency thereof from "any one of claims 1 to 18" to --any one of claims 1 or 28-30, 33-
35, 38-41, 43-45 or 47-53 28-42 or 49-50--, and also change the recitation of the characterizing clause from "wherein said cell walls have a porosity of 50 to 80% and an average pore size of 10 to 50 μm " to --wherein said cell walls of said ceramic honeycomb structure have a porosity of 50 to 80% and an average pore size of 10 to 50 μm --, whose finds support at page 8, lines 12-14 of the specification.

In similar fashion, the recitation of claim 51 at page 24 is correctly changed to read as follows:

"The ceramic honeycomb structure according to any one of claims 1 ~~to 28-30, 33-35, 38-41, 43-45 or 47-53~~ or 28-42 or 49-50, wherein said cell walls have a porosity of 50 to 80% and an average pore size of 10 to 50 μm ."

Any inconvenience to the Examiner is regretted.

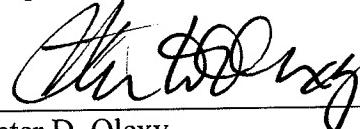
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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